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Year in Review: 2017

Jenna Ray

University of Minnesota - Morris

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Year in Review: 2017

2017 was a banner year for the University of Minnesota, Morris. From the [appointment of Chancellor Michelle Behr](#) to the [launch of *A model for living and learning*](#), here are the highlights:

January

[Governor Mark Dayton Holds Town Hall Water Summit at Morris](#)

January 6, 2017

The Governor invited all Minnesotans to participate in conversation focused on water challenges and solutions in greater Minnesota.

February

[Michelle Behr Becomes Chancellor](#)

February 6, 2017

Behr took office as Morris's sixth chancellor on February 6, 2017.

March

[Rebecca Dean Receives 2017 UMMAA Teaching Award](#)

March 29, 2017

Dean stands out for redesigning the anthropology major to emphasize service learning.

[Pieranna Garavaso Receives Faculty Distinguished Research Award](#)

March 31, 2017

Garavaso has enjoyed a long and distinguished career, producing a massive body of work that has earned her the admiration and respect of colleagues all over the world.

April

[Ruby DeBellis '18 Earns a Place at Public Policy and International Affairs Junior Summer Institute](#)

April 12, 2017

DeBellis was selected for her academic record and involvement in student activities at Morris.

[Becca Gercken Receives All-University Horace T. Morse Award](#)

April 20, 2017

Gercken excels in teaching, research, creative activities, advising, program development, and educational leadership.

[Tarlynn Tone-Pah-Hote '18 Is a Udall Scholar](#)

April 21, 2017

The junior biology major is one of three Morris students who excelled in the scholarship competition this year.

[Three Morris Students Named Fulbright Scholars](#)

April 24, 2017

Their successes speak to the power and value of a Morris education on the global stage.

May

[Morris Earns Minnesota Climate Adaptation Award](#)

May 9, 2017

The awards recognize achievements in leadership, education, research, policies, and practices that have resulted in development or implementation of climate change adaptation strategies.

June

[UMMAA Announces 2017 Distinguished Alumni Award Recipients](#)

June 1, 2017

Dennis Gimmetstad '73 and Teresa Peterson '91 have made noteworthy contributions in their professional lives, in public service, and in service to the University of Minnesota.

July

[The New Bolt Comes to Campus](#)

July 31, 2017

Morris added a fully electric vehicle to its fleet, thanks to alumnus Matt Privratsky '11.

August

[Morris to Host ACE Fellow Michelle Stewart](#)

August 21, 2017

Stewart chose Morris as her host institution for its dedication to students and to history, mission, and vision.

September

[Morris Launches \\$21 Million Fundraising Campaign](#)

September 8, 2017

The \$21 million raised will support student experiences, faculty leaders, historic facilities, and the future of the region.

October

[Morris Awarded US Department of Education McNair Grant](#)

October 19, 2017

The prestigious grant program prepares eligible students for doctoral study.

November

[Morris Enjoys Record-Setting Give to the Max Day](#)

November 17, 2017

The campus received nearly \$80,000 in gifts during the 24-hour giving event.

December

Three Morris students Earn Scholarly Excellence in Equity and Diversity Awards